

Appl. No. 10/045,266
Amdt. Dated November 18, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 2, 2005

APP 1290

Remarks/Arguments

In the Office Action being responded to claims 1-6, 9, 17-21 and 23 were rejected, claim 11 was allowed, claims 7, 8, 10, and 22 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their base and any intervening claims, and claims 12-16 were indicated as allowable upon correction of the erroneous dependency set forth in claim 12.

In response thereto applicants have canceled claims 1-6, 9, 17-21, and 23, have rewritten claims 7, 8, 10, and 22 as independent claims, and have corrected the dependency of claim 12. In addition, claims 10 and 11 have been amended to improve their form, and, in view of the Examiner 112 rejection of now canceled claim 5, applicants have amended allowable claim 16.


Allowance of claims 7, 8, 10, 12-16, and 22 is therefore requested.

In addition applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention their related patent application Serial No. 09/840,254, filed April 23, 2001, which has now issued as patent 6,795,709, September 21, 2004. To obviate any question of overlap of claimed subject matter between the claims remaining in this application and the claims of applicant's prior application, applicants are submitting herewith a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to that prior patent.

Accordingly, applicants believe that this application is in condition to be allowed and passed to issue, and such action is therefore respectfully requested. However, if the Examiner deems it would in any way expedite the issuance of this application, he is invited to telephone applicants' attorney at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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